

Pearls, precious & semi-precious stones, machinery, project goods, Organic & Inorganic chemicals, Artificial resins & plastic materials, etc. The major items of export during April-December, 1991 were Gem & Jewellery Readymade Garments, cotton yarn & fabrics, Engineering Goods, Electronics Computer Software, Chemicals & related materials, leather & manufactures, Iron ore, Marine products, processed foods, oilmeams, cashew kernels, tea, coffee etc.

(d) The trade deficit during April-December 1991 was US \$ 1628 million as compared to US\$ 4832 million during April-December 1990. In Rupee terms, the trade was Rs. 3906 crores during April-December, 1991 as compared to Rs. 8535 crores during April-December, 1990.

(e) The Government introduced a package of policy reforms aimed at strengthening of export incentives, eliminating a substantial volume of import licensing and optimal import compression. These include: partial convertibility of Rupee reduction in tariff rates, removal of licensing on all imports barring a few sensitive items, strengthening of advance licensing schemes, etc. Besides, Government have taken other steps which include reducing controls through licensing, simplification of procedures for exports, activation of Board of Trade, bilateral discussions with selected countries, interaction with national organisations of trade and industry etc.

NCC Units in Maharashtra

2878. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of units of different NCC wings in Maharashtra;

(b) whether the Government propose to raise the number of NCC Units in all the

districts of Maharashtra;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Maharashtra has the following NCC Units:

Army wing	...	51
Naval wing	...	5
Air wing	...	3

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Raising of new units is not being considered due to paucity of resources.

[*Transition*]

Tea Production

2879. SHRI SURYANARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some new areas have been selected for increasing the production of tea and coffee;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the total amount spent so far in this regard; and

(d) the results likely to be achieved therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d). Potential for ex-